

The Free Lance

Devoted to the Agricultural, Commercial and Manufacturing Interests of Fredericksburg and the Tidewater and Piedmont Country.

VOL. 15.—No 123

FREDERICKSBURG VA. THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 1899.

Price 3 ce nt

Wood's Grass

and Clover Seeds.

Have obtained the highest reputation for purity, cleanliness and germination, causing our business in the same to become one of the largest in the United States. Handling these seeds in the large quantities that we do, also enables us to sell same at the lowest possible prices, quality considered.

WOOD'S SEED BOOK gives the fullest information about Grasses and Clovers—also the different sorts are adapted for—best combinations to give largest results in hay or pasture—care of pastures and meadows, &c., &c. A postal will bring this book to you. Prices and samples of Grass and Clover Seeds sent on application.

T. W. WOOD & SONS, Seedsmen, Richmond, Va.

Closing-out Sales take Place at BAKER'S every day.

25 Pairs Blue and Green Portiarras, worth \$5.00 and \$5.50, at \$3.50 and \$3.75 per pair; handsome and cheap.
1,000 Pairs White, Red and Gray Blankets from 35c. to \$5.00. Don't buy a pair of Blankets until you see this stock. Had Comforts from 25c. to \$1.25. You can keep warm this winter at a small cost.
39 Pieces 50-inch all wool Suitings, in all colors, worth 60c., at only 37c. per yard. Five yards makes a whole suit and only costs you \$1.87 for a nice dress.
60 Lbs. Best Factory Yarn at 60c. per lb.

CAPES—DRESSES AND JACKETS.

Capes from 75c. to \$1.00.

The greatest bargains in Gent's, Ladies and Children Winter Under wear in town.
Have you seen our \$1.00 Cassimeres, now selling at 50c. Baker has always been headquarters for Cassimeres, Korseys, &c.
The biggest stock and lowest prices will be found at

E. T. BAKER'S,

MARKET CORNER.

FREDERICKSBURG, VA.

See the New Goods at S. G. WALLACE'S

In these glorious DEWEY mornings come, When wise as SLY, there is not one. But that can down a very handsome. To get a chance to buy these goods so handsome.

A great many of these goods were bought at Closing-out Sales, for much less than their value, and some of them will be sold for less than last year's prices. I have just purchased from the leading northern markets the newest styles in Ladies Dress Goods, Silks and Trimmings, Ladies and Children's Cloaks and Capes. Excellent line of Outings, Percales, Gingham and Calicoes. Big stock of Cassimeres, Korseys, Ky Jeans and Flannels. All kind of Cottons, sold close. Great bargains in White and Colored Blankets. All kind Underwear, great values. Trunks and Satchels, don't forget. Umbrellas, Corsets, and everything else needed in the Nation line, you can get at prices to suit, (prices close). Two large rooms full of carefully selected Dry Goods comprise my wholesale department. Country merchants please note this fact.
Come early; and when you are happy tell others.

S. G. WALLACE,

Main and Commerce Streets.

FREDERICKSBURG, VA.

Going to School?

YOU WILL WANT SOME

BOOKS

AND OTHER SUPPLIES,

and the place for you to buy is

Adams' Book Store.

JEWELRY, &c.

Latest Styles Bracelets, Wedding Rings, Watches, Silver and Gold Long Neck Chains, &c., &c., at LOWEST PRICES FOR CASH.
Watches, Clocks, etc., repaired. The Best Spectacles in town. Eyes examined free of charge.

A. LOEWENSON, Jeweler & Optician,
99 MAIN STREET, FREDERICKSBURG, VA.

The Excelsior Roller Mills

MANUFACTURES

GILT EDGE FAMILY, HIGH GRADE FAMILY
X X X X X HIGH GRADE EXTRA.

I am now prepared to give special attention to exchange work, both wheat and corn, and will give good results of flour and feed, meal and husks. Please send clean grain and dry. Flour 33 to 37 pounds per bushel wheat, meal 47 pounds per bushel corn.

G. H. PETTIT, PROPRIETOR.

December 1, 1897.

HARDWARE!

S. B. BEALE,

having bought out the entire Hardware Stock of John A. Stone, will continue the Hardware Business

at the OLD STAND, on COMMERCE ST., and is now having in a full new STOCK of GOODS in the Hardware Line which he will sell at the

Lowest Cash Prices,

Go and see him before you buy.

Pain-Killer.

A Medicine Chest in Itself.
Simple, Safe and Quick Cure for CRAMPS, DIARRHOEA, COUGHS, COLDS, RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA.

25 and 50 cent Bottles.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.

BUY ONLY THE GENUINE, PERRY DAVIS'

KING GEORGE.

County Levy List—Notes and Personal.

(Correspondence of The Free Lance.)

King George Court House,

October 16th, 1899.

The Board of Supervisors met on Saturday, the 7th instant, Allen Smith, chairman. The board transacted much business, and completed the laying of the county levy as follows: A tax of 50 cents on each taxable person and 60 cents on each \$100 of the assessed value of the real and personal property, 20 of which is for keeping the public roads in repair.

Hon. Thomas H. Bryan is visiting his sister, Mrs. Rayner, wife of Hon. Isidore Rayner, of Baltimore, Md. Mr. George Pemberton, son of Postmaster P. H. Pemberton, of Mathias Point, who has been ill for some weeks with typhoid fever, died on the 12th instant.

Mr. Thomas L. Hunter, formerly of King George, is attending the law course at the Georgetown College for the session of 1899-1900.

A marriage license was issued from the clerk's office on the 7th instant to Warner Hall and Alberts Wilkins, colored, all of King George.

Col. R. J. Washington, was at the clerk's office on the 10th attending to professional business.

Mrs. Ella Billingsley, Mrs. Sally White and A. P. Billingsley have purchased a farm adjoining Powhatan and Mt. Ida, from Mr. Jas. L. Armstrong, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

Judge John E. Mason left by the Rappahannock steamer on Thursday evening, the 12th, to hold the fall term of his courts at Montross and Warsaw Westmoreland and Richmond counties.

Mr. H. B. Coghill has opened a tremendous stock of fall and winter goods at his large store in our village.

The Junior Order of American Mechanics will give a sumptuous dinner at the Court House on the 24th, with other attractive features, for the benefit of the order.

Miss Rosa Nide, of "Middleboro," is visiting her cousin, Mrs. Myrick, at Dobbs's Ferry, on the Hudson, in New York.

Rev. E. T. Turner, of St. Margaret's, Anne Arundel county, Md., has accepted a call to St. John's, St. Paul's and Emmanuel P. E. churches, in King George, and will begin his duties here by the 1st of November next.

Old fashions in dress may be revived but no old-fashioned medicine can replace Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. For sale by M. M. Lewis, Druggist.

THE MINNEAPOLIS EPISODE.

Will Secretary Long Profit by His Experience With the Public?

[From the Chicago Tribune (Rep.)]
At the reception of the Minnesota volunteers at Minneapolis on Thursday Secretary Long referred to the accomplishment of Admiral Sampson at Santiago.

His reference was a foolish, flimsy and unimpressive thing, and it was not until the excitement had died away. Then he remarked that there was glory enough for all.

It is unfortunate that Secretary Long has so little tact, judgment and good taste as to be continually placing Sampson before the public in a light which is calculated to make him odious. Sampson was a gallant officer and did his duty, but this attempt to exalt him at the expense of others, and to disparage others in his favor, may produce a reaction which Secretary Long will not relish. American will always be grateful for what Sampson has done, but if Secretary Long persists in discriminating in his favor it will redound to the injury of the man he and the navy bureaucrats are trying to exalt.

The people will not be able to discriminate between Long and Sampson, and Sampson will get the worst of it. Sampson may be hit when it is Long who deserves the blow.

It is true that when Secretary Long was interrupted he apologized, and, adopting the language of Admiral Schley, said there was "glory enough for all." It is unfortunate that that sentiment has not governed him up to this time. There was glory enough for Sampson, Schley and all the captains and officers of the fleet in the Santiago engagement, and the people have always reasoned that way. If that had been the policy upon which Secretary Long and the Navy Department had acted, there would have been no trouble. If they had not tried to traduce Schley and glorify Sampson at his expense, there would have been no ill-feeling against him, and Sampson and Schley would have shared in the glory all equally, with enough left over to go around through the fleet.

The danger now is that in all the dust which Secretary Long persists in kicking up the merits of the case may be forgotten, and it may turn out that there will be no undisputed hero. Usually every contest, on sea or on land, has its undisputed hero, but up to this time Santiago has none. Secretary Long will do better to observe a discreet silence in future, but he probably will do nothing of the kind, as he is a prejudiced and obstinate man. He should have learned from the demonstrations at New York, Washington and Minneapolis that Admiral Schley is a popular favorite, and that official detraction cannot pull him down. In the end it will react against those who are guilty of it. With the shouts for "Schley! Schley! Schley!" ringing in his ears, it is to be hoped that Secretary Long will have the wisdom to observe a discreet silence in regard to the Santiago campaign until he is prepared to do justice to all the participants in it.

COINS RARE AND COMMON.

A Billion of Cents in Use Coins for Which High Prices are Paid.

The demand for one-cent pieces is so great that the Philadelphia mint is compelled to turn out nearly 4,000,000 a month to keep up the supply. There are at present something like 1,000,000,000 cents in circulation.

If you want to exchange a hundred dollar bill for cents you would get ten good, large bags full of copper. Nickel and copper coins have no mint marks, neither have coins issued at the Philadelphia mint. Collectors often pay high prices for coins bearing certain mint marks which otherwise would not have been worth more than their face value.

The first United States cents struck for circulation bore the date 1793. They are of six varieties, and are valued at \$2.50 to \$6.25.

Very rare are the New York doubloons, coined in 1787, of which only five are known to exist. On one side is a picture of the sun rising over a mountain surrounded by the legend, "Nova Eborac Columbia Excelsior."

"Eborac" is the name of the designer, "Brabner." The other side has the original form of the national motto, "E Pluribus Unum." There is an heraldic eagle on one wing of which are the letters "E. B.," the designer's initials. These coins are worth about \$500. The last one sold brought \$527.

It had belonged to an old Maryland family ever since it was coined.

The five-dollar gold piece of 1822 is a rare coin. At one time only two were said to be in existence; one in the Philadelphia mint, the other in Boston, but a third was picked up in a New York money changer's shop a few years ago.

"I was afraid at first that it might be a counterfeit," said the collector of coins who happened to spy it. The man was so delighted to secure it that before leaving the shop he didn't want. He paid only \$6 for it. The same day he received an offer of \$250; later \$450 was offered by another gentleman; \$600 by another one, but the gentleman, at last, accepted, was holding it for \$1,000. One of the most sought after colonial coins is the highly copper. It was struck in 1737 by Samuel Highty, who was a physician and a blacksmith at Galesburg, Conn. He got the copper from a mine near by and shaped the coin at his forge.

About nine years ago a silver shakedown was found in Texas which dates back to 142 B. C. Its intrinsic value is about 50 cents; its value to collectors \$5,000.

One of the earliest known coins is a didrachm of ancient Athens, coined about 700 B. C. Its intrinsic value is 30 cents; its market value \$7.

The coins spoken of in the Bible are shekels, which were of silver; the widow's mite, the tribute penny and the "Judea capsa," the bronze coin struck by the Emperor Titus to commemorate the destruction of Jerusalem.

In Japan coins are chiefly of porcelain. Wattle's teeth form the coinage of the Fiji Islands. They are painted white, and the red teeth being worth about twenty times as much as the white. These teeth are worn as a necklace instead of carried in a pocketbook.

The entire collection of coins and medals in the British Museum consists of 250,000 specimens, and is one of the finest in the world. At the Philadelphia mint is a good collection of American coins, but the Government only allows it \$300 a year to buy coins with. The British Government spends \$5,000 a year in coins.—N. Y. Sun.

\$100 Reward, \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. It is a disease that is often known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional malady, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer one hundred dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address, F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, etc. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

The sword which the citizens of Georgia will present to Lieutenant Brumby, of the Olympia, bears the following inscription on one side of the blade: "Presented by the citizens of Georgia to Lieutenant Thomas M. Brumby, U. S. N., in recognition of his distinguished services to his country at Manila Bay, May 1, 1898."

The reverse side bears the following: "Born at Marietta, Ga., 1855. Appointed from Atlanta, Ga., 1873. Graduated, 1877."

Three Doctors in Consultation.

"When you are sick, what you like best is to be chosen for a medicine. The first place to be chosen in the second place; what reason (i. e., Theory) says is best is to be chosen in the last place. But if you can get Dr. Inclinam, Dr. Experience and Dr. Reason to hold a consultation together, they will give you the best advice that can be taken."

When you have a bad cold, Dr. Inclinam would recommend Chamberlain's Cough Remedy because it is pleasant and safe to take. Dr. Experience would recommend it because it never fails to effect a speedy and permanent cure. Dr. Reason would recommend it because it is prepared on scientific principles, and acts on nature's plan in relieving the lungs, opening the secretion and restoring the system to a natural and healthy condition. For sale by M. M. Lewis, Druggist.

Proposed Constitutional Amendment.

The Hampton Monitor says: Two amendments are proposed to be made to the State Constitution. The one that more directly concerns Tidewater is the proposition to strike out this:

"Article 10—Section 2—No tax shall be imposed on any of the citizens of this State for the privilege of taking or catching oysters from their natural beds with tongs in the waters thereof; but the amount of sales of oysters so taken by any citizen, in any one year, may be taxed at a rate not exceeding the rate of taxation imposed upon any other species of property."

No explanation followed this publication, and most voters are entirely in the dark as to its purport and meaning.

An amendment to a State Constitution is always important, and any attempt to amend or repeal any part of the Constitution ought to be fully explained to the people, but the fact is the various candidates and their friends are generally so busy telling the voter what a terribly bad official the other fellow would make that a side-issue, like a Constitutional amendment, is lost sight of, so the Monitor will acquaint its readers with the purport of the proposed repeal of Article 10, section 2.

In 1890 our present State Constitution was ratified by a minority of the white voters of the State. The majority were disfranchised by an iron-clad constitution, that was a prerequisite for voting. The voter had not only to swear that he had not taken up arms against the United States Government, and had not given aid and comfort to those who had, but that he had not even sympathized with the Lost Cause. This oath was somewhat modified by a subsequent act, but even then the great mass of the white people were disfranchised, while every "contraband" (as the slaves were then called in the North) that was in the State originally, or had followed the Union armies, was a full-fledged sovereign by an act of Congress.

It was necessary then to undo the work of such statesmen as Jefferson, Madison, Marshall, Tazewell, Monroe, Dorr, Dorr, Barbour and John Randolph, as far as it could be done, and give Virginia a Constitution in keeping with the reconstructed order of things, and "Dr." Bayne, Judge Underwood, Lewis Lindber, etc., etc., a collection of corn-fed negroes, scallwags, and carpet-baggers, were selected for this great work. It was a sight to make angels weep.

The convention which sat in 1867 was known as the "Banjo and Bones Convention," or the "Bayne-Underwood Convention." This last appeal was because the moving spirits were "Dr. H. Bayne, a Norfolk darkey, who was as ignorant and presumptuous as he was black and ugly; and Judge Underwood, of the United States District Court, who is remembered chiefly because of his unsuccessful endeavors to "hang Jeff. Davis on a sour-apple tree" or any other tree that might be at hand.

An account of this convention would be still interesting reading, although the story has been often told.

Up to this time there was a statutory tax of five dollars on all persons who desired to take oysters from the natural rocks, and this tax produced a large revenue, and was not unduly burdensome to the legitimate tongmen. There were many tongmen in Tidewater then. Desiring to gather these into the Republican fold, it was thought if the tongmen's tax was abrogated it would be a help to this end, and so Article 10, section 2, was now sought to be repealed, became an important part of the new Constitution, and prohibited a further tax on tongs.

This section 2 has been a thorn in the side of all General Assemblies since its adoption. It is a difficult thing, and as expensive as it is difficult, to guard the natural oyster rocks, especially those that are in Chesapeake Bay, and a sufficient tax to do this guarding could not be raised after the ratification of the new Constitution, and so the oyster police-boats had to be taken off, and the oyster rocks became a common resort for resident and non-resident alike, for the dredger as well as the tongman, and the close seasons were largely disregarded in the absence of oyster police. The dredgers became more bold and defiant, their vessels went heavily armed, and they ravaged rocks and private beds almost at will. We well remember the high-handed doings of "Admiral" Jim Skaggs and his raking fleet, and O. V. Cameron's expedition with the Norfolk militia, for his suppression, and the clamor of the tongmen after this to be protected, in which many of them expressed a willingness to be reasonably taxed to pay for this protection, but there was Article 10, section 2, which practically tied the hands of the General Assembly, and prevented it. Notwithstanding this, the General Assembly has tried most faithfully to give the tongmen the protection asked for, and it has taken about all the oyster revenue to do this; some years it has taken more.

A repeal of Article 10, section 2, will allow the State to levy a direct tongmen's tax. Before the new Constitution was adopted the annual tax for the privilege of taking oysters from the natural rock, as before stated, was \$5. This did not apply to tongmen who worked only on planted oysters. How should the fifteen thousand tongmen in Tidewater regard the proposition to repeal Article 10, section 2? For thirty years they have worked under it paying little or no oyster taxes. The natural rocks cover a wide area, and being very far apart, it has been found that the effort to tax the oysters that are taken from them, as other property is taxed, has been barren of results. This form of taxation might prove effective if there could be an inspector for each canoe, but with each catch,

discharged into yeasels lying out in the bays and wide-mouth rivers of Tidewater, no such law could be enforced, and the result of attempting to raise revenue in this way, so as to protect the natural rocks, has been a failure.

One who has only casually glanced at this subject would, at first thought, regard a desire to change the method of taxation as class legislation, a thing apart from the "equal and uniform taxation" elsewhere described by the Constitution, and so it is; but in this connection, it must be remembered, that the tax is not to be levied on the product of one's labor or enterprise, as for example productions of the farm or factory. It is a special tax for the privilege of taking a thing that the taker did not produce, and that he asks the State to go to an extraordinary expense to protect for his special benefit. If the tongman could go on avoiding oyster taxation for the next thirty years, as he has for the last thirty, it would be well from a selfish standpoint for him to vote against striking out Article 10, section 2. But can he do so? That is the question. Powerful syndicates, we understand, are even now at work to get control of the natural rocks. We know what these big trusts are doing elsewhere throughout the country, and we fear for the result if they get to work on the oyster industry.

There are but twenty Tidewater counties. The agents of the syndicates work on the upcountry legislators. They say to the legislators, "The natural rocks are not paying for the expense of protecting them; convey them to us, and we will turn into your State treasury thousands of dollars where you now receive none."

What answer can the tongman make to this? Can he turn to the man whose property is being taxed to guard the natural rocks, and ask him not to vote them away? Would he not be thrice armed if he paid a reasonable tax which would fully pay the expense of guarding these rocks? Would he not then be in a stronger position to fight all proposals to sell these rocks, and could he not then stand some chance of eliciting the sympathy and aid of the upcountry legislator, when he could say to him, "These rocks are no expense to the State; we pay the cost of guarding them?" The Monitor thinks he would, and so thinking it advises the oystermen to instruct their representatives in the General Assembly to vote to repeal Article 10 of section 2.

From information that reaches us, we believe the tongman will do well to strengthen his own hands, and the hands of his representatives against the meeting of the next General Assembly. We cannot say more at this time. We have much to say along this and kindred lines before the end of the year.

Bobbed the Grave.

A startling incident of which Mr. John Oliver of Philadelphia was the subject is narrated by him as follows: "I was in a most dreadful condition. I was almost yellow, eyes sunken, tongue coated, pain continually in back and sides, no appetite—gradually growing weaker day by day. Three physicians had given me up. Fortunately, a friend advised trying 'Electric Bitters,' and to my great joy and surprise, the first bottle made a decided improvement. I continued their use for three weeks, and am now a well man. I know they saved my life, and robbed the grave of another victim." No one should fail to try them. Only 50c., guaranteed, at M. M. Lewis' Drug Store.

Army 100,000 Strong.

At the War Department returns were received which show that the full authorized strength of the army has been reached, and 100,000 men are now available for any service required. Of this force 65,000 men belong to the regular service and 35,000 to the volunteer. Should it become necessary to further increase the army, Congress must act, before troops can be secured. The present army under the law, can be maintained until June 30, 1901, when it returns to its normal strength.

Nearly one-half of the enlarged army has been recruited, armed and equipped since last June, when the first call was issued for more troops, and of the regiments enlisted for the campaign in the Philippines many have either been landed in Manila or are on the way. It is estimated that General Otis has now under his command nearly 40,000 men, and with the regiments now on the way and those that will depart next month by the middle of December will approximate 68,000.

This is the army the Administration depends upon to subdue the Philippines, and should it prove unable to meet the situation it will not be practicable to send reinforcements from troops stationed at garisons at home or in Cuba or Puerto Rico, which have all been depleted to the limit. The movement of troops to Manila will continue without interruption, under the program arranged by the War Department, until every regiment assigned to duty there has been transported. Three of the regiments now awaiting transportation will go from New York by way of the Suez Canal on the transports Thomas, Logan and Meade. These regiments are the Forty-first, Forty-seventh and Forty-third.

There are 3,000 men at San Francisco ready for transportation—the Twenty-eighth and Thirty-first Regiments and 900 recruits. The ships available for these men are the Manassas, the Olympia and Victoria, which are scheduled to sail this week, and the Hancock on October 25. These vessels have an aggregate carrying capacity of 3,055 men and 120 officers. The movement of 12

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ABSOLUTELY PURE

Makes the food more delicious and wholesome

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK

additional regiments will begin in a few days, with the departure of the Pennsylvania and the City of Paeble, with over 1,000 officers and men. Other ships are to follow rapidly, so that by November 15 all the troops intended for the Philippines are expected to be on the way.

The military authorities will wait for the arrival of all these reinforcements before beginning the campaign, which, it is said now, will open early in November, with a general movement against the enemy. Nor does it seem probable there will be any change in the program of maintaining General Otis in command of the troops, with full authority, such as he has exercised since General Merritt's departure. The conduct of the actual fighting, however, will devolve upon Generals Lawton, MacArthur and Schwan. Upon them will depend in great measure the success of the campaign, but should they be hampered by instructions from General Otis it is asserted positively that Otis will be withdrawn and some other officer sent to take his command.

General Miles continues to regard the Philippines as the proper place for the commanding general of the army to be and pointed out recently that Otis commands twice as many men as he. There is little probability, however, that Miles' wishes will be respected unless it becomes apparent that General Otis is mismanaging the campaign.

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